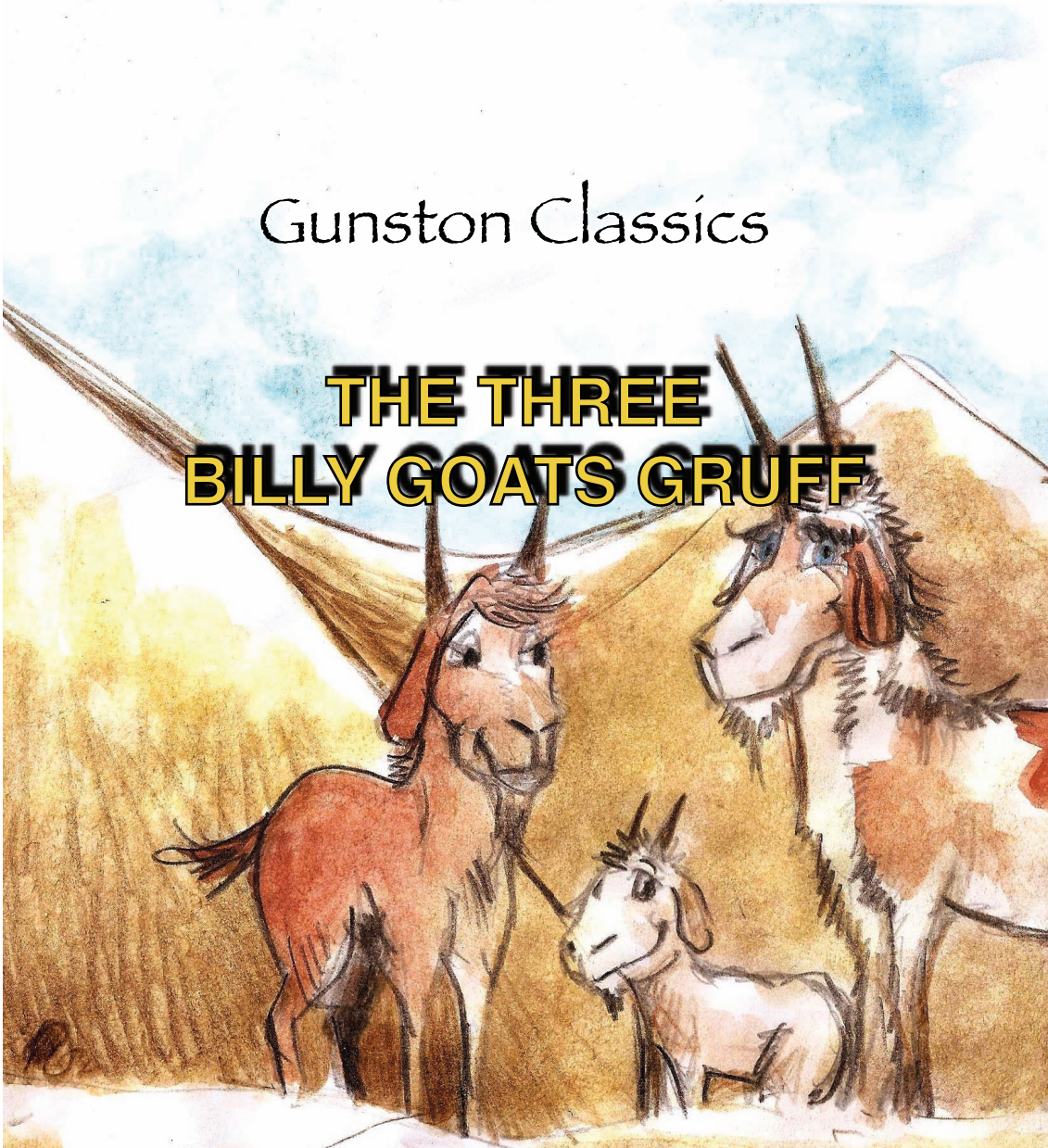
Gunston Classics

THE THREE BILLY GOATS GRUFF



Robin Gilmor

Gunston & The Book Bunnies

The Gunston Trust

The Three Billy Goats Gruff

By Robin Gilmor

Illustrated by Sotirios Vougiouklis

Second Edition

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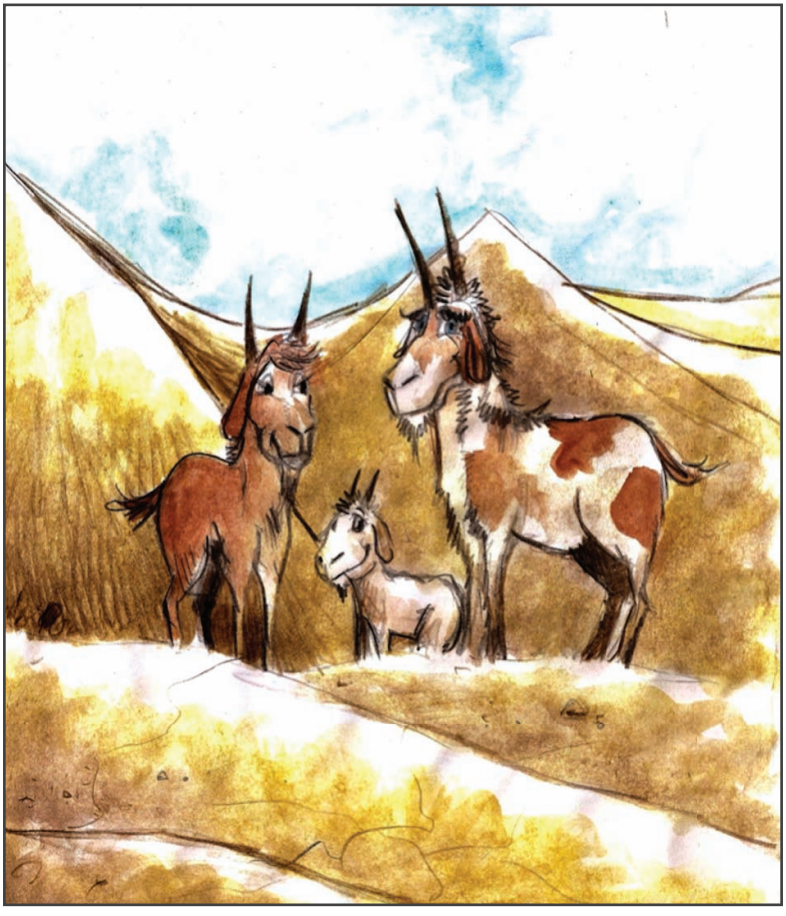
The Three Billy Goats Gruff

There once was a meadow
cut in half by a stream.

Where the rushing
turbulent waters did flow.

On one side of the meadow
the grass was all green,

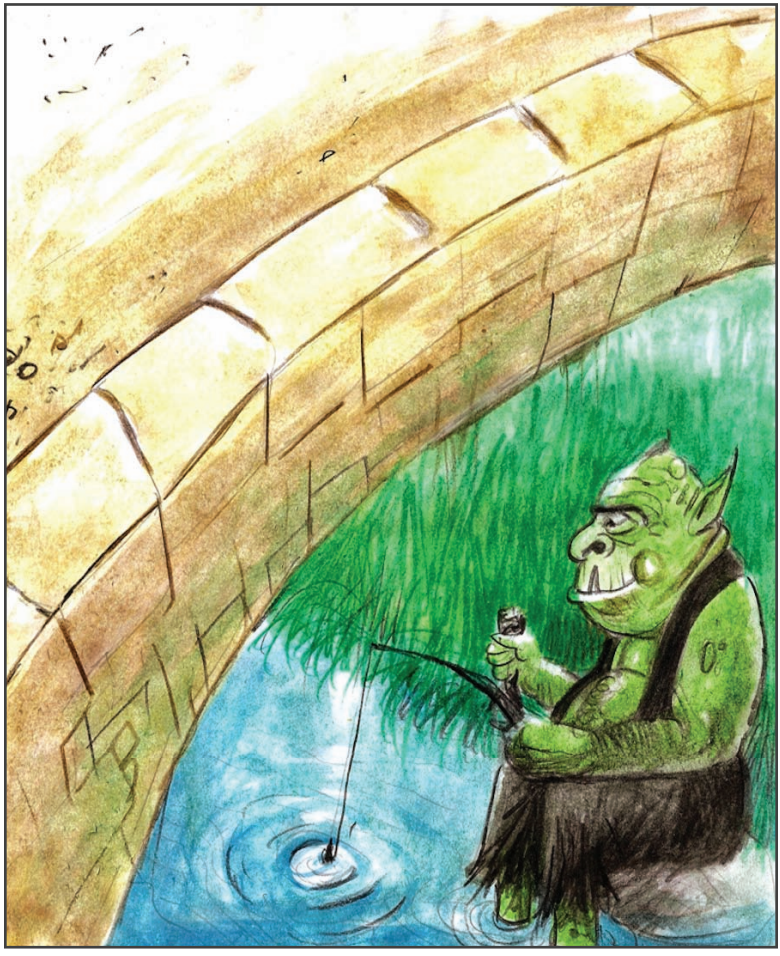
But the other was brown
and nothing would grow.



On the dark side there lived
Three goats named Gruff,
A Billy, a Nanny and a wee tiny Kid.

They were ever so hungry
for the sweet luscious grass,

So they crossed over the bridge,
that's just what they did.



But under the bridge
lived a terrible Troll,

Who would eat all who tried
to cross over his head.

He waited and waited,
to jump up and scare them.

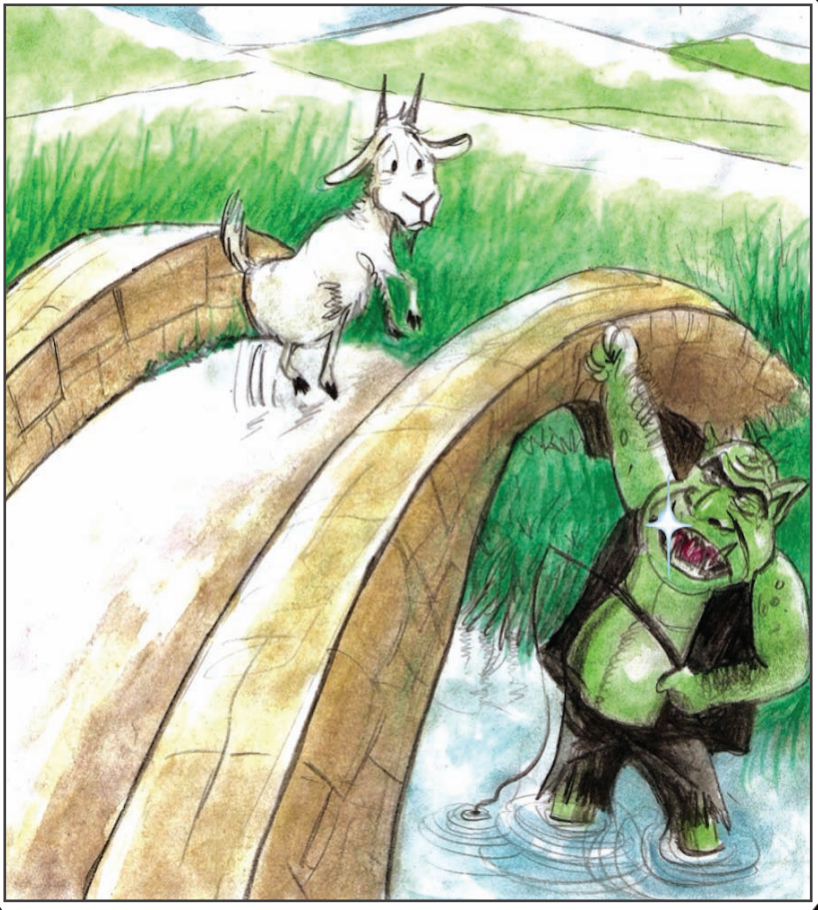
For this terrible Troll
just wanted them dead!

The Troll had long teeth
that were sharp and ferocious,

With a head that was ugly
and enormously big.

He ate fish for his dinner
but he truly preferred. . .

A delicious plump goat
or a fat juicy pig!

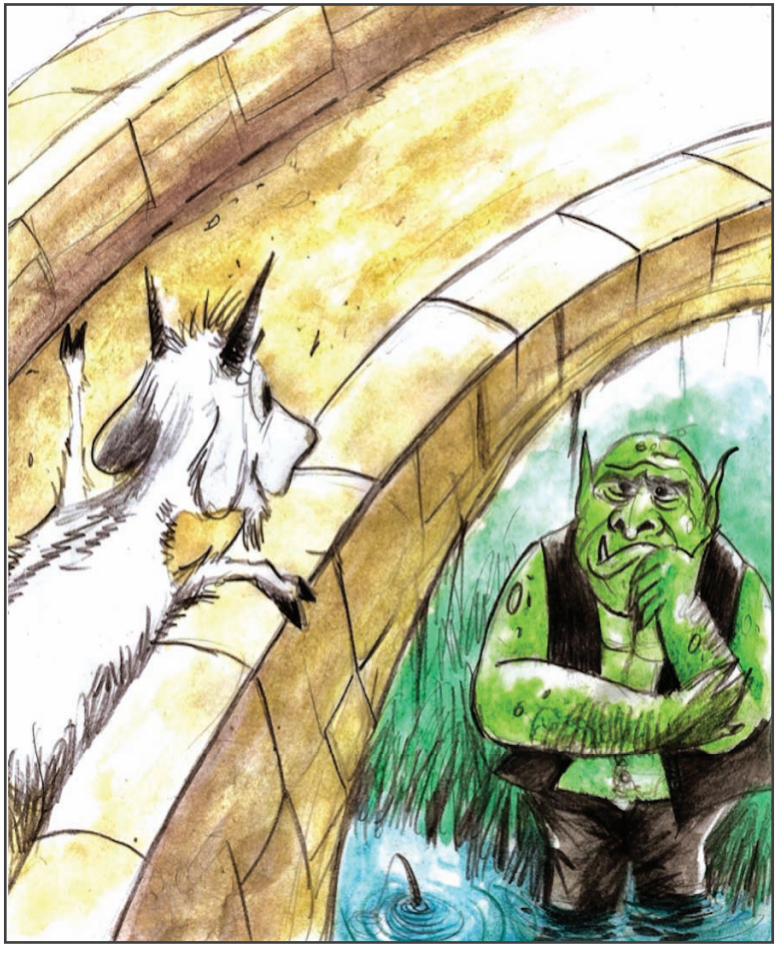


When the wee tiny Kid
ran over the bridge,

Trip-trap was the sound
as he trotted along,

But the terrible Troll
then yelled from down under. . .

"If you dare walk across,
to me you'll belong?"



Oh, 'tis I," said the Kid,
as he crossed over,

"I'm hungry and I want
some green grass to eat."

"You're a wee tiny Kid,"
said the terrible Troll,

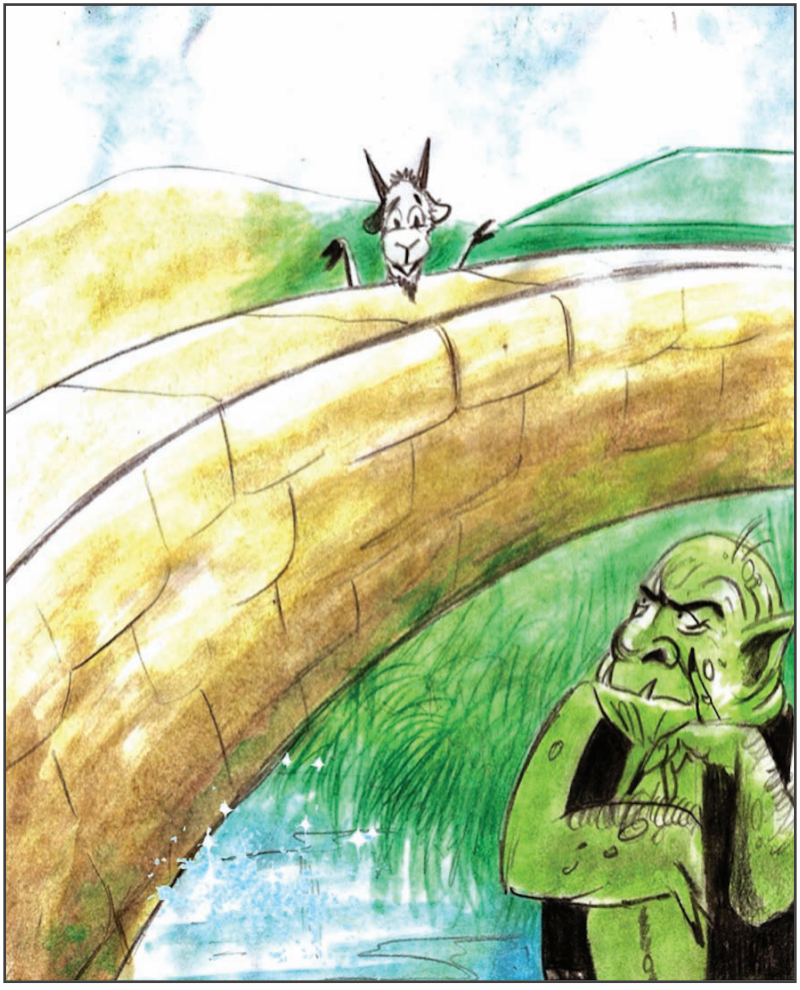
"Your extrem-ely small,
you don't have much meat!"

Oh Please Mr. Troll,
please let me cross over.

I'm skinny and small,
I've no meat on my bones.

Let me eat some green grass
to fatten me up. . .

I'll taste better, when fatter,
please leave me alone!"

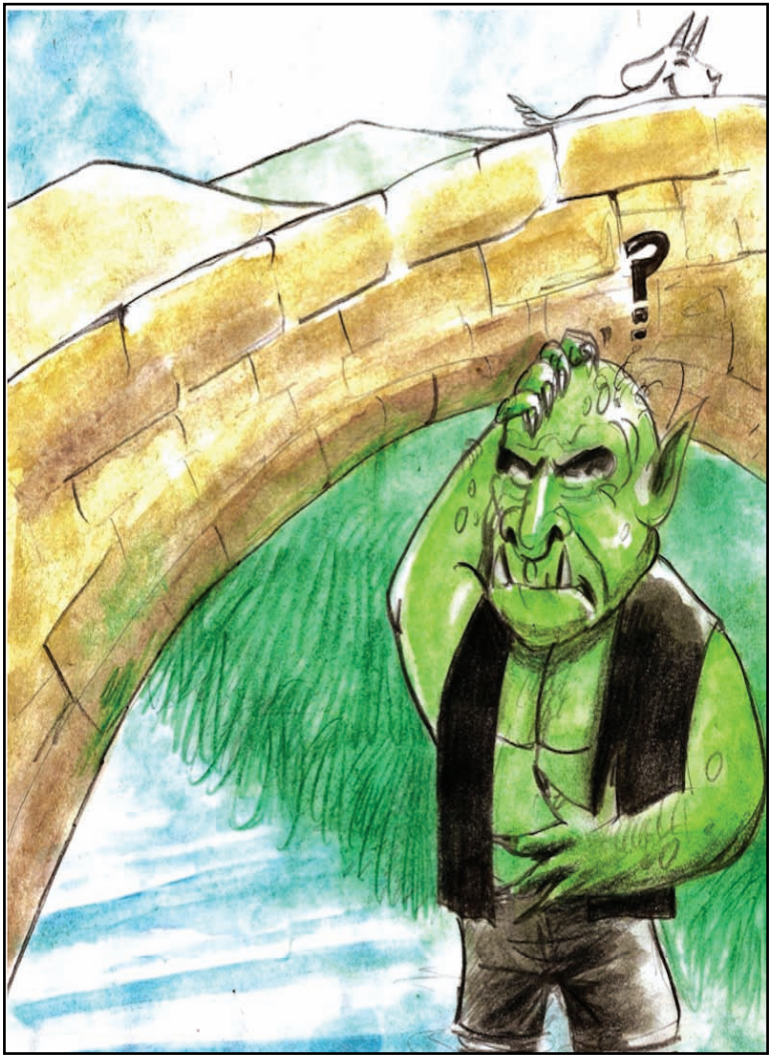


Because if you eat me,
you eat me all up,

You will miss the next goat
that is not far behind. . .

She is tasty with meat you'll
enjoy for your dinner,

And a much better meal,
I am sure you won't find."



The Troll scratch his head
and he let the Kid go.

Down under the bridge
the Troll went to hide.

When Nanny Goat Gruff
crossed over the bridge,

The terrible Troll
heard the echo inside.

Trip-trap, Trip-trap
Came Nanny Goat Gruff,

As across the bridge
she trotted along.

When the terrible Troll
yelled from down under. . .

"Who walks on my bridge
this warm summer morn?"

"T is I," said Nanny Goat
Gruff, crossing over,

"I am hungry and I want some
green grass to eat."

"You look tasty to me,"
said the Terrible Troll,

"You're round and you're plump,
with lots of good meat."

Oh please Mr. Troll
don't eat me all up,

Or you'll miss the next goat
that is not far behind. . .

He is tasty with meat
you'll enjoy for your dinner,

And a much better meal,
would be hard to find."

And the terrible Troll
drooled with the thought

Of a big Billy Goat
so delicious and sweet.

When he heard someone walking
over his head,

"It must be my dinner,
what a feast I shall eat!"

Trip-trap, Trip-trap, was the
sound that he heard,

As over the bridge walked
BIG BILLY GOAT GRUFF!

"Who dare to walk over my bridge?"
yelled the terrible Troll,

I'll eat you for dinner,
I'll eat you all up!"

BAM!
SPLASH

T is I," said BIG BILLY GOAT GRUFF
with a grin,

"But you'll have to catch me,
you mean little soul!"

And then in a flash
THE BIG BILLY GOAT GRUFF

Lowered his horns charging
straight at the Troll!

SPLASH

And into the swirling
blue waters below. . .

Plunged the terrible Troll
who was then swept away!

Now he's gone forever,
this miserable sort. . .

For he's never been seen
since that very day!

The Three Billy Goats Gruff

So now in the meadow
all lush with green grass,

Lives a family of goats
named Gruff.

They enjoy the warm mornings,
and clear blue waters. . .

For on this side of the river
there is always enough.

And together they lived
happily every after!

THE END

The Author: R.F. Gilmor, is a retired teacher who always loved children's books and fairy tales. They have been her main focus for over 50 years. A mother of three and grandmother of nine, she finds her best audience for story ideas from her grandchildren. Robin lives in Maryland with her husband and german shepherd Max. She has written over 100 stories for children which she has decided to share. As a former teacher she uses her rhythm and rhyme in verse which aids those beginning and those who are reluctant or challenged readers.

Illustrator: Sotirios Vougiouklis, (1966 - 2015) known as 'Sotto', lived in Greece with his family. After a long and distinguished Army career, Sotto, a retired Colonel found time for his first love. . .art. Self taught since childhood, he developed his own style and methods which he shared with his students and clients. His inspiration adds greatly to the stories he illustrated with his classic sketches and modern color palette that opens the world of fantasy to young and old alike. It was an honor to work with this fine gentleman. RFG

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~ Fantasy ~
Building fond memories
of childhood.
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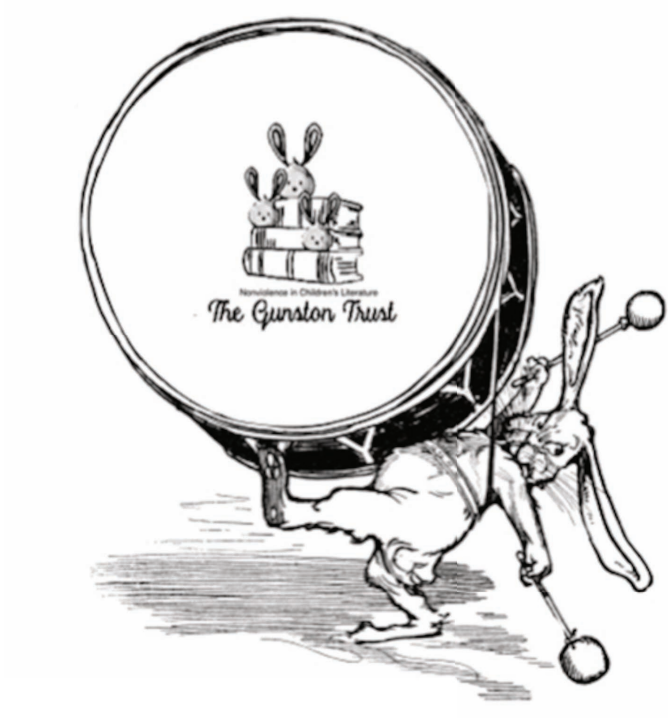

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